

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.

The applicant will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

Claims 1-8, 21 and 47 are objected to because of minor informalities. Claims 1-8 and 47 have been canceled. Claim 21 has been amended based on the Examiner's helpful suggestion. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 35 and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 35 has been rewritten in independent form to include base claim 33 (canceled) and intervening claim 34 (canceled). Therefore, claim 35 is

now in condition for allowance. Since claim 36 depends from claim 35, it is also in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claim 28 has been amended, per the Examiner's helpful suggestion, to depend from claim 23. The recitation "the range" in claim 28 now has proper antecedent basis. Since claim 28, as amended, complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the applicant respectfully requests that this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 32, 37, 38, 47 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0202171 ("the Hama publication"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103


Claims 3, 8, 33 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hama publication in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,735,190 ("the Chuah patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (and any accompanying paper(s)) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent Office on the date shown below.

John C. Pokotylo

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March 17, 2006
Date